

BESURE Study 2004-2013: Baltimore site of National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS)

The National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) system is a CDC-funded project conducted in 21 cities in the United States, including Baltimore. The purpose is to measure HIV prevalence, HIV risk behaviors, HIV testing behaviors, and exposure to prevention services over time among persons at high risk for infection. NHBS has three cycles focusing on different groups: men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users (IDU), and heterosexuals at risk of HIV infection (HET). Information from NHBS guides prevention and HIV counseling and testing services in Baltimore. It also helps guide and improve overall HIV/AIDS surveillance, and provide a better understanding of trends in HIV infection in Baltimore and throughout the United States.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene receives funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to participate in the National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS) System and to collect data for the Baltimore-Towson metropolitan area. In Baltimore, the NHBS is performed as a collaboration between the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and operates as the BEhavioral SURveillance REsearch Study or BESURE.

Survey methods and sample characteristics, BESURE 2004-2010

	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
Men who have sex with men (MSM)	Jun 04- Apr 2005	July - Oct 2008	Aug – Dec 2011
Data collection method	Venue-based	Venue-based	Venue-based
Total MSM in past year*	645	448	403
HIV prevalence	37.7%	37.5%	42.4%
Prevalence unrecognized HIV infection	58.4%	78.4%	67.3%
Injection drug users (IDU)	Aug 06 – Jan 07	Sept – Dec 2009	2012
Data collection method	Respondent Driven Sampling	Respondent Driven Sampling	Respondent Driven Sampling
Total IDU in past year recruited*	539	507	620
HIV prevalence	11.9%	16.2%	23.2%
Prevalence unrecognized HIV infection	50.0%	41.2%	27.8%
Heterosexuals at high risk (HRH)	July – Oct 2007	Sept – Dec 2010	2013
Data collection method	Venue-based	Respondent Driven Sampling	
Total recruited *	332	338	
HIV prevalence	3.9%	6.3%	
Prevalence unrecognized infection	83.3%	62.5%	

*Complete survey and HIV test

Note: Differences in HIV prevalence and unrecognized infection may be due to sample differences across waves.

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<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CHSE/SitePages/behavioral-surveillance.aspx>



Publications

National HIV Behavioral Surveillance

- 2013 MMWR HIV Infection Among Heterosexuals at Increased Risk - United States, 2010. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6210a2.htm?s_cid=mm6210a2_e
- 2012 MMWR HIV infection and HIV-associated behaviors among injection drug users – 20 cities, United States, 2009. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6108a1.htm
- 2011 MMWR HIV Risk, Prevention, and Testing Behaviors Among Men Who Have Sex With Men. National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System, 21 US Cities, United States, 2008. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/ss/ss6014.pdf?source=govdelivery>
- 2011 MMWR HIV Testing Among Men Who Have Sex with Men -- 21 Cities, United States, 2008 http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6021a3.htm?s_cid=mm6021a3_w
- 2011 MMWR Characteristics Associated with HIV Infection Among Heterosexuals in Urban Areas with High AIDS Prevalence - 24 Cities, United States, 2006-2007 http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6031a1.htm?s_cid=mm6031a1_e&source=govdelivery
- 2010 MMWR Prevalence and Awareness of HIV Infection Among Men Who Have Sex With Men — 21 Cities, United States, 2008 http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5937a2.htm?s_cid=mm5937a2_w
- 2009 MMWR HIV-Associated Behaviors Among Injecting-Drug Users — 23 Cities, United States, May 2005–February 2006 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5813a1.htm>
- 2006 MMWR Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Risk, Prevention, and Testing Behaviors — United States, National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System: Men Who Have Sex with Men, November 2003–April 2005 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5506a1.htm>
- 2005 MMWR HIV Prevalence, Unrecognized Infection, and HIV Testing Among Men Who Have Sex with Men — Five U.S. Cities, June 2004–April 2005 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5424a2.htm>

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